## Appendix I.

[*Vide* item 2 on page 48 ]

### Address by the Governor of Madras.

Hon'ble Members of the Legislature,

It is my pleasant privilege to welcome you all to this Joint Session of the new Legislature. To those Members of the old Legislature who have been re-elected. I offer my felicitations. To many others who have been newly elected, I specially extend my best wishes for active and fruitful service in the cause of the people of the State.

2. The Fourth General Election in our country on which the eyes of the entire world had been focussed is just over. I consider it specially significant that this general election should have gone off peacefully and without any untoward incident, particularly in our State. The keen interest which the people have evinced in exercising their franchise as evidenced by the heavy figures of voting, affords striking proof that democracy has struck deep roots in our country and that the people are now fully conscious that they are arbiters of their own destinies. The peaceful manner in which the people have voted a new Government to power and the smooth transfer of responsibility for conduct of affairs of the State from one political party to another, bear eloquent testimony to the political maturity of our people. The large body of public servants of all ranks who were connected with the conduct of elections in some capacity or other have, by and large, conducted themselves with a commendable sense of detachment and impartiality. My Government fully appreciate the contribution which a contended and politically neutral body of civil servants can make to the promotion of the welfare of the people of the State and will do all that lies in their power to uphold and cherish the traditions which have been evolved, while endeavouring at the same time to introduce those essential reforms which are needed to make the administrative machinery a more potent instrument for the achievement of the ends of a welfare State.

3. The Government have assumed office on the basis of policies and programmes calculated to remove the many genuine grievances of the people. These policies will now have to be worked out in detail with the help of experts in different departments of Government and got ready for implementation. The Government will obviously take a little time to take stock of the present situation and hammer out concrete programmes for fulfilling the hopes which have been roused. On the general problems which our country faces along with other under developed countries such as inadequate production, low level of savings and investment and glaring inequalities of wealth and income have been superimposed the special difficulties caused by the admittedly disappointing performance during the Third Plan period both on agricultural and industrial fronts in spite of massive outlays in financial terms. Unprecedented droughts for two consecutive years have aggravated

the situation. The shortfall in attainment of physical targets under vital sectors has accentuated the rise in prices, causing considerable hardship to the poorer sections of the society and people with fixed incomes. The Government are aware that within the framework of a Federal Constitution, in which the State Government have to function, the responsibility for the overall direction of economic policy rests with the Central Government and that, therefore, the State Government acting in isolation cannot make any measurable impact on the problem of rising prices. While it will be the endeavour of the State Government to keep in close touch with the Central Government and assist in the evolution and implementation of policies which are calculated to increase production, improve distribution and generally relieve the persistent pressure on prices, they also feel that the time has come when they should be clothed with more powers so as to enable them to translate the aspirations of the people into actualities. There is today a growing urge for federalism in practice.

4. My Government are also aware that in many fields such as food production and distribution active co-operation of the State Governments in the region termed as South Zone will prove fruitful. It would also explore in consultation with other States in the region possibilities of exploiting the natural resources of the region for the common good. As a first step towards promoting inter-State co-operation in such matters, my Government will take the initiative in activising the Zonal Councils which have been set up under the States' Reorganisation Act.

5. While, for the solution of the many problems which face our economy, patient preparatory work is needed, Government are aware that the solution of the food problem can brook no delay. Seasonal conditions have been generally good in the current year and it is expected that the actual production in 1966–67 would have registered considerable improvement over the preceding year and would at least have reached the level recorded in 1964–65, which was the best year of the Third Plan period. But we are functioning as part of a national economy which is facing serious shortfall in production of cereals due to widespread drought in many parts of the country. The pressures on supplies and consequent rise in prices are therefore bound to be communicated with varying degrees of intensity to the different parts of the country. Even with normal production, defective distribution can lead to serious difficulties. We have to evolve a food policy which will provide adequate incentives to the producers and assure supplies of wholesome rice to the poorer sections of the society at fair prices. But meanwhile, with the long-term crop already under harvest coming up for sale, the Government have recognised the urgent need for keeping up procurement of marketable surpluses and arrange for their orderly distribution in areas in respect of which they have assumed rationing commitments. The Government are, therefore, directing the district executive staff to proceed with procurement on the lines already chalked out, while actively exploring the desirability and feasibility of fresh lines of approach. The immediate objective is

that Government should have in their possession adequate quantities of foodgrains to see them through the lean months which lie ahead of us before another good monsoon and improved agricultural production programmes have their full impact in terms of increased production all round. My Government are fully aware that procurement at controlled prices does involve a measure of sacrifice particularly for the small farmers. Government would take steps to see that the bigger landholders do bear their due share of the burden involved in delivering the marketable surplus to the Governmental agency commensurate with their capacity for bearing such a burden. People who have a surplus have an obligation to the society. The Government will endeavour to instil this sense of social obligation so that the rich look upon their wealth as giving them an opportunity for serving the society and not indulge in ostentatious living. The Government will take every care to see that there is no discrimination in implementing the procurement programme and that the hardship to the smaller producer in particular is minimised to the utmost. The Government are also confident that by keeping up essential supplies to the vulnerable sections of the society such as industrial workers, landless agricultural labourers and people with fixed incomes, they can contain the rise in prices and in due course, bring about a significant reduction in costs all round which will in turn help to provide the agriculturists essential inputs at fair prices. We have to break the vicious spiral of rising prices and rising costs at some point and it is this Government's firm belief that a reduction in prices of foodgrains through increased production, improved distribution and other means can make a significant contribution to relieving the problem of rising prices, which has been plaguing the Indian economy in the last ten years. Here again, the problem of Central-State relationship assumes a new significance. Placed as they are today, the States with their limited resources find it extremely difficult to meet the needs of the people. Taking note of the widespread discontent among the people, the Centre should come forward in a big way to assist the States in implementing their policy of holding the prices, particularly of foodgrains.

6. The one relieving feature of the difficulties which we are facing on the food front is that they have helped to focus the attention of the administration and the people on the over-riding importance of augmenting agricultural production. There is widespread recognition that a greater emphasis on agricultural production in our earlier Plans would have helped to avert the serious situation we are facing today. Prudence demands that we should draw on our experience in the recent past and take steps now at least to bring about a perceptible improvement in agricultural production through concentration on quick-yielding schemes. The Government recognise that propagation of improved seeds, extension of facilities for irrigation and larger supplies of fertilisers in right quantities and in right time, hold the key to increased production. In this three-pronged programme, the State Government can to some extent on their own tackle successfully the problems relating to multiplication and distribution of improved seeds, including the

hight-yielding strains such as ADT-27 and CO-25. It also lies in their power to promote energetic measures for extension of facilities for irrigation through minor irrigation and lift irrigation programmes. Even in the interim Plan for 1967-68, which will be shortly coming up for consideration before the Legislature, the State Government have endeavoured to provide reasonably adequate resources for maintaining the tempo of these programmes. But improved seeds and irrigation facilities can produce the best results only if we can simultaneously also take steps to assure the farmers fertilisers to the full extent required. It is in this respect that we are almost wholly dependent on the Central Government. This Government cannot help pointing out that the Central Government's performance in this vital sphere has been disappointing and has caused considerable discontent among the farmers. Supplies of fertilisers even in the current year have been inadequate and halting with the result that against our indent for allotment of 1·35 lakhs tonnes of nitrogen, we have received an allotment of only a little over 86,000 tonnes. In respect of phosphatic fertilisers too, against our target of 60,700 tonnes the supplies received aggregate only to 27,000 tonnes. The initial conservatism of farmers in regard to use of fertilisers has been completely overcome. The farmer is keen to-day to adopt all modern and scientific methods of agriculture and it is for the administration to respond by arranging for all essential inputs. But our programmes such as those relating to high yielding varieties will be of no avail, if timely and adequate supplies of fertilisers are not forthcoming. If such supplies are assured, the State Government would on their part take effective steps to investigate and remove all defects in the distribution of fertilisers to the farmers and thus redress one of their long-standing grievances.

7. The State Government will, therefore, place prominently before the Central Government, the importance of production of fertilisers within the country and press them to make such essential adjustments as may be necessary in the fourth Plan under finalisation, in order to accord higher priority to production of fertilisers. The production of fertilisers in the country will involve a time-lag and in the meanwhile it is necessary to arrange for larger imports of fertilisers which should be looked upon as maintenance imports vital for realising the full production potential of our farmers.

8. While recognising the importance of supplies of essential inputs for modern and scientific agriculture, we should also not overlook the importance of the human factor. The farmers particularly those with small holdings should have adequate incentives for increased production. It is in this context that the policy of my Government in regard to land revenue assumes special significance. In response to pressure of public opinion as voiced in the legislature and outside, the surcharge on land revenue has already been abolished. This is not enough. The present Government feel that there should be a phased programme for relieving the small landholders from the rigours of land revenue. They will take concrete decisions in this regard in time for the next fasli.

1967, மார்ச் 18]

9. Our programmes for augmenting agricultural production cannot succeed fully unless we pay attention also to the problems of cultivating tenants. The Government will undertake a review of existing legislation relating to tenancy so as to plug the loopholes and ensure fixity of tenure to cultivating tenants in actual practice.

10. Increased production also calls for streamlining of the present arrangements for provision of credit to the farmers. While the Government recognise that co-operatives are the best agency for canalising credit to the farmers, they also realise that there is considerable scope for improvement in the working of the co-operatives at all levels. In arranging for larger flow of funds through the co-operatives to meet the requirements of the farmers, we should also take care to ensure that the funds are properly utilised and reach the most deserving people. The small farmer feels, and not without reason, that the co-operative organisation is far removed from him and often subject to political pulls and pressures which work against him. The present state of affairs, which has kept a large number of small farmers out of the benefits of co-operative organisation, should not be allowed to persist. The Government, therefore, propose to set up a Committee to study the working of co-operative organisation in the State and formulate proposals for its reform and reorganisation on sound lines. Through such reforms the Government, in whom the people have expressed overwhelming confidence, will seek to mobilise the enthusiasm and energy of the farmers and secure their purposeful co-operation with the agricultural extension machinery in reaching the targets of agricultural production. The Government would also seek to associate the Panchayats and Panchayat Unions fully in this process of getting the farmers emotionally involved in the developmental programmes.

11. Agricultural production programmes should form the sheet-anchor of the Fourth Plan which is yet to be finalised. Hon'ble Members are aware of the difficulties and uncertainties which have so far held up the finalisation of the Fourth Plan, though the first year of the Fourth Plan is already over. The shape and size of the Fourth Plan will to a large extent depend on the prospects of foreign aid. The first year of the Fourth Plan has been largely devoted to keeping up the execution of programmes carried over from the Third Plan and concentrating on certain essential programmes of agricultural production. Even for the next year, we have at present prepared only an interim plan keeping in view our own limited resources and the Central assistance made available at this stage. The details of the interim plan will be presented to you along with the Interim Budget for 1967-68 at this sitting. The overriding principle on which the interim plan is based is that developmental programmes already under execution should not in any manner suffer. The Planning Commission has accorded tentative approval for the State's Fourth Plan with an outlay of Rs. 564 crores of which the Central assistance will be of the order of Rs. 250 crores. The Government will soon apply its mind to the Plan as tentatively finalised and see whether any, and if so,

what essential readjustments in priorities are necessary. It should be stressed that the rate of growth of the State's economy will not be determined solely by the outlays in the State Plan. Investments of the Central and private sectors in the State will be of even greater significance in promoting economic growth. The State Government would press its case for a fair share of the investments in the Central sector through the implementation of certain major industrial projects such as the Salem Steel Plant whose economic and technical feasibility is beyond all doubt.

12. In the light of the situation emerging after the Fourth General Elections, there is need to emphasise the federal character of our Constitution and restore States to the position originally visualised for them under the Constitution. The States can no longer be passive spectators in the process of formulation and implementation of the Plan but should play a more active part. The Planning Commission would itself seem to have recognised to some extent the need for giving the States a larger role in the Fourth Plan period. It has recently decided on certain proposals for transfer of schemes hitherto treated as Centrally Sponsored to the State sector. But there is need for carrying this process further and assigning a more dominant position to the States in sectors such as agricultural production, education and public health which under the Constitution fall within the ambit of the States. The present role of the Central Ministries concerned with these subjects will have to be reviewed and the tendency, which has become pronounced in recent years, of Central Ministries interfering in fields wholly within the competence of States through financial and other sanctions, kept in check. After all, the resources of the Centre form part of the national pool to be drawn on both by the Centre and States according to the relative priorities of their programmes. The use of Central loans and grants to promote the pet schemes of Central Ministries has only served to distort these priorities and has often led to a wasteful utilisation of the nation's scarce resources.

13. The main business of the Legislature at this sitting will be consideration of the Interim Budget for 1967-68 and the passing of a Vote on Account for covering anticipated expenditure during the first four months of the ensuing financial year. The keynote of the Interim Budget and the Interim Annual Plan embodied in it will be to maintain the tempo of progress in different sectors unimpaired, pending a detailed review of the draft Fourth Plan and the issues of policy connected therewith, by the Government. The results of the review and the final Plan as emerging from such a review will be fully reflected in the regular budget to be presented to the Legislature some time in June 1967.

14. While there may be genuine and honest difference of opinion on certain aspects of the Plan, there has always been and there should continue to be agreement among all enlightened sections of public opinion in the State on the lines on which the State's economy should be strengthened. There can be no difference of opinion whatever on the need for augmenting agricultural production or building up of power potential or expanding essential

social services like education, medical relief and public health. I would plead for the continuance of a spirit of understanding and co-operation among all sections in this House so as to facilitate the progress of the State in these fields. The Legislators who have preceded you have set high standards of debate and discussion and have earned special appreciation by virtue of the dignity and decorum with which they conducted the deliberations even in moments of stress and strain. We have already set an example to the rest of the country in maintaining high democratic traditions and we are called upon now to live up to them and further improve on them. In this House we find today on the treasury bench men who have just secured the popular mandate in abundant measure facing an opposition rich with experience in administration for a long number of years. I am sure that in these circumstances there would emerge purposeful co-operation between members of different political persuasion in the general task of promoting the welfare of the people. Democracy is but an exercise in pooling the abilities and capabilities of contending elements for the common cause. I am sure that through such united efforts you would make a lasting contribution to the progress of the State and assure a better life for our people, a life full of hope and happiness, peace and prosperity.

## இணைப்பு I.

( 48 ம் பக்கத்தில் உள்ள அடிக் குறிப்பைக் காண்க)

(கவர்னர் பேருரையின் தமிழாக்கம்)

மாண்புறு சட்டப் பேரவை உறுப்பினர்களே,

புதிய சட்ட மன்றத்தின் இக் கூட்டு அவைக்கு உங்கள் அனைவரையும் பூரிப்போடு வரவேற்பதை ஒரு பெரும் பேறாகக் கருதுகின்றேன். மீண்டும் இம் முறை தேர்ந்தெடுக்கப்பட்டுள்ள பழைய சட்ட மன்ற உறுப்பினர்களுக்கு எனது பாராட்டுக்கள். இந்த மாநில மக்களுக்குப் பயன்படும் வகையில், ஊக்கத்தோடும் ஆக்கத்தோடும் பணியாற்றும் வண்ணம் புதிதாகத் தேர்ந்தெடுக்கப் பட்டுள்ள ஏனைய பல உறுப்பினர்களுக்கும் சிறப்பாக எனது நல்வாழ்த்துக்கள் உரியவாகுக.

2. உலகம் முழுமையும் உள்ள எல்லோருடைய கண்களையும் கவர்ந்து நின்ற நம் நாட்டின் நான்காவது பொதுத் தேர்தல் இப்பொழுது முடிவடைந்துள்ளது. இத் தேர்தல் குறிப்பாக நமது மாநிலத்தில், அமைதியாகவும் விரும்பத்தகாத எவ்வித நிகழ்ச்சிகளின்றியும் நடைபெற்றது நாம் சிறப்பாகப் பாராட்ட வேண்டியதொன்றாகும். இத் தேர்தலில் மக்கள் அளித்துள்ள பெருவாரியான வாக்குகள், தங்கள் வாக்குரிமையைச் செலுத்து வதில் அவர்களுக்குள்ள பேரார்வத்தைக் காட்டுவதுடன், நமது நாட்டில் குடியாட்சி வேரூன்றிவிட்டது என்பதையும், தங்கள் வருங்கால வாழ்வைத் தாங்களே வகுத்துக்கொள்ள முடியும் என்பதை மக்கள் முற்றிலும் உணர்ந்துள்ளார்கள் என்பதையும் புலப்படுத்துகின்றன. புதியதொரு அரசாங்கத்தை அமைதியான